

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/676,658

Examiner

Robert M. Timblin

Applicant(s)

LIN, ZHENHAI

Art Unit

2167

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/18/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4-10,12-14,16-22,30,31,33-39,41-43 and 45-51 now renumbered 1-38.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action corresponds to Application 10/676,658 filed 9/30/2003.

Drawings

The amended figures 1-2 submitted 9/18/2007 have been accepted and entered. Accordingly, the objections thereto have been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1, 2, 4-10, 12-14, 16-22, 30, 31, 33-39, 41-43 and 45-51 now renumbered 1-38 are allowed. The novelty in independent claim 1 and similar claim 12 incorporating essentially the same features, relates to the upgrading portion of the claim. The combination of the following lines are what Examiner feels makes the claim unique:

"upgrading said application, wherein upgrading said application comprises the steps of processing the data stored in the first table, wherein processing comprises:

creating a first replacement table to hold the data from said first table;

copying the data from said first table, wherein data from said one or more default attributes of said first object type is copied from said first table into said first replacement table; and deleting said first table; and retaining, in said third table, values for said first custom attribute of said first object type and said second custom attribute of said second object type." Based on the arguments made by Applicant, the prior art on record

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is considered distinguishable from the claim. Copying data between tables in a repository and having a separate table for customized attributes are not considered novel, however, the combination of the steps used to copy the tables for the purpose of upgrading an application was not expressly taught or suggested in the cited prior art.

Based on the Applicant's arguments made to independent claims 6, 10, 18, and 22, the prior art on record is considered distinguishable from these claims. These claims include in part the steps of "based on the information from said catalog table, constructing in volatile memory data structures that indicate the custom attributes of each of said plurality of object types; and in response to a request to access a different object instance of a particular object type of said plurality of object types, inspecting said data structures, without accessing said catalog table, to determine the custom attributes of said particular object type" which appear to be novel over the prior art as they are not expressly taught or suggested in the cited prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert M. Timblin whose telephone number is 571-272-5627. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John R. Cottingham can be reached on 571-272-7079. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.


Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Robert M. Timblin



Patent Examiner AU 2167

9/27/2007



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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100